

RN97085
Serial 09/463,525
Amendment

- any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 18-1171.

Reconsideration of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following amendment and remarks.

Please amend the above referenced application as follows:

In the claims

Please amend claim 27 as follows:

D1
27. (Twice amended) An isocyanate composition which is at least partially masked, comprising at least one carboxylic acid function or salts thereof and being at least partially masked with at least one masking agent, said one masking agent not bearing a carboxylic acid function or salts thereof and said one carboxylic acid function being grafted onto the isocyanate composition by reaction of a precursor of said composition via an agent bearing the carboxylic acid function and a function which reacts with a free isocyanate function, wherein the ratio in equivalents between the carboxylic acid functions or their salts thereof, on the one hand, and the isocyanate functions which are masked, free and which have reacted with the agent bearing carboxylic acid functions, on the other hand, is at least equal to 5%, and is not more than 2/3, said composition having a glass transition temperature at least equal to 20°C.

Please amend claim 37 as follows:

D2
37. (Twice Amended) A composition according to Claim 29, wherein said masking agent containing a carboxylic acid function represents, in equivalents, at least 10% of the masking agent.

Please amend claim 39 as follows:

D³

39. (Twice Amended) A composition according to Claim 29, wherein said masking agent containing a carboxylic acid function contains, per masking agent, not more than 4 freely rotating methyl or methylene groups.

Please amend claim 43 as follows:

D⁴

43. (Twice Amended) A composition according to Claim 27, wherein said carboxylic acid function is directly linked to an aromatic ring of the isocyanate composition.

Please cancel claim 52.

Marked-up amended claims according to 37 C.F.R. 1.121 are submitted in an attached document. Added matter is shown by underline and deleted matter is shown by strikethrough.

It is asserted that these amendments do not add new matter and are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. In that connection, amended claim 27 finds support on page 11, lines 5-12, of the instant specification and amended claim 43 finds support in claim 14 originally filed. Entry of these claims is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Claims 27, 29, 30, 32, 37-40, 43, 45-50, and 53-55 are pending in the application.

Claims 27, 29, 30, 32, 37-40, 43, 45-50, and 52-55 have been rejected.

Claims 27, 37, 39, and 43 have been amended.

Claim 52 has been canceled.

Claims 29, 30, 32, 38, 40, 45-50, and 53-55 are kept unchanged.